



UA Tech Park Incubator Ribbon Cutting

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

Good afternoon, everyone.

I was privileged to be here for the groundbreaking of this marvelous facility in July, 2010. So, it's a real honor to be here today for the official Ribbon Cutting.

The Center for Innovation is truly the engine that will power us into Arizona's second century -- and, HERE WE ARE -- about to enter that second century and this business incubator, a vital part of our ability to compete on the global stage.

Incubators help accelerate the commercialization of technology -- and they also dramatically increase the success rate of new start-up businesses.

As Governor -- and with the help the Arizona Commerce Authority -- we're advancing a robust statewide incubator system across the state -- from Flagstaff, to Chandler -- from Superior to Yuma.

Last year, I was able to direct state stimulus funds to help several of the incubators, -- including the Arizona Center for Innovation -- improve their laboratory facilities -- expand their business development programs -- and strengthen their outreach and recruitment activities.

This Center received a \$1.5 million grant to increase the number of start-up companies being incubated in the Tucson region.

It's an investment to bring novel technologies to the marketplace, create high wage jobs and expand and diversify Southern Arizona's economy.

You never know who among the Center's current clients may be Tucson's next Burr Brown or Ventana Medical Systems.

I applaud the University of Arizona and its role in moving Arizona smartly in to its second century. And, I'm honored to join in the dedication of these new facilities and programs today. Thank you.